

CRSC Ambassador

Quarterly

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Mark your Calendars!
*Join us for the CRSC
Ambassador's Training
Conference Call*

Date: 10 Jan 2007
Time: 1400 EST hours
Call in number: TBD

Holiday Message from COL Sackett

On behalf of the staff at CRSC and myself, we wish all of our CRSC Ambassadors across the country and the world the warmth and love of good friends and family during this holiday season. We appreciate your professional commitment and dedication to those who benefit from your skilled and compassionate care throughout your service with the CRSC Ambassador program.

Because of your dedicated service to the Ambassador program, we have been able to reach out to more Retired Veterans in the past year since the inception of the CRSC program. It is due to your hard work and diligence that there are increasingly more recipients receiving CRSC. We cannot thank you enough for offering your talents freely to those in your community. You are giving hope and encouragement as well as spreading a better understanding of CRSC by your unique experience and knowledge.

CRSC looks forward to working with you in the year ahead and continuing to have the CRSC Ambassador family grow. We are committed to building upon your efforts to spread the word to other retired veterans. The new year promises many new challenges and opportunities for CRSC, and we look forward to exploring them with you. The CRSC staff and I hope you will share our resolution for the coming year to continue to commit to a mission of caring for our veteran community.

For your continued service, we would like to show our appreciation by presenting you with the Official CRSC Ambassador Coin and the CRSC Lapel pin. The tradition of 'coining' dates back to the Roman Empire in which Legionnaires were presented with a coin for their military achievements. The United States Military adopted the tradition with the Special Forces, and CRSC would like to continue the tradition with a specialized coin as a sign of gratitude for all of your hard work in helping us achieve our mission.

We want to wish you a safe and peaceful holiday season. Let's make the most of this opportunity to relax, enjoy the holidays, share our joy with family and friends and remember all of our fellow veterans. Thank you for everything you do for CRSC.

Respectfully,

John F. Sackett
Colonel, U.S. Army
Chief, Combat-Related Special
Compensation Division

ORGANIZATION

CRSC Claim Form – Stay Tuned for a New Form!

Based on feedback from all branches of service and numerous veterans, the DoD made improvements to the CRSC claim form. The new form streamlines the ability of veterans to apply for the compensation they deserve.

What's new about the CRSC Claim form?

Changes include, but are not limited to, larger, more readable font and text boxes to make it easier for the veteran to use the form. The new form also takes claimants through a sequence of eligibility questions and prompts them for documentation at every step. For example, under the "Preliminary Requirements" section, the first question for Active Duty Retirees is, "Did you serve at least 20 years on active duty?" and then asks the veteran to attach a copy of their DD FORM 214(s) providing 20 years of active duty service. Now, there is no question of the supporting documentation needed for the CRSC claim. Everything a veteran needs to know is on the form itself.

When should you expect to see the new Claim Form?

The new DD FORM 2860 has been approved by DoD. It will be published online and available by 01 Jan 2007.

How do you submit a successful Claim?

Veterans may obtain assistance by visiting the Army's updated CRSC website at www.crsc.army.mil (being released 18 Dec 2006!). Once there, you can click on "Retired Veterans" to obtain information on eligibility criteria, the claim process, answers to frequently asked questions, and other claim resources. In addition, veterans can call the CRSC Service Center at 1-866-281-3254. Veterans who retired from a branch of service other than the Army must submit their claim to that branch using the contact information below:

AIR FORCE

United States Air Force
Disability Division (CRSC)
550 C Street West Ste 6
Randolph AFB TX 78150-4708
Phone: 1-800-616-3775
Website:
www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/disability/CRSC/CRSCnew.htm

COAST GUARD

U.S. Coast Guard Commander (adm-1-CRSC)
Personnel Command
4200 Wilson Blvd.
Arlington, VA 22203-1804
Website:
www.uscg.mil/hq/cgpc/adm/adm1.htm

NAVY and MARINE CORPS

Secretary of the Navy Council
of Review Boards
Attn: Combat-Related Special
Compensation Branch
720 Kennon Street SE, Suite 309
Washington Navy Yard, DC 20374
Phone: 1-877-366-2772
Website:
www.hq.navy.mil/corb/CRSCB/combatrelated.htm

NOAA CORPS: <http://www.noaa.noaa.gov/>
Public Health Service: <http://www.usphs.gov/>

How do veterans contact DFAS regarding their CRSC payments?

For CRSC Payment questions, please refer veterans to DFAS at 1-800-472-7098.

Educating Veteran's on Presumptive Injuries.

What are Presumptive Conditions? Based on certain service, veteran's may be awarded an injury/illness that is connected to this exposure. An individual who is diagnosed with a 'presumptive condition' is presumed to have been exposed as a result of combat operations such as service in the Republic of Vietnam (exposure to Agent Orange), exposure to an officially recognized nuclear event, mustard gas, a Prisoner of War (POW), and/or has an undiagnosed Gulf War illness.

The most common presumptive diseases include, but are not limited to, Diabetes Mellitus (also known as Type II Diabetes), Prostate Cancer and several types of respiratory cancers. Although these conditions do not guarantee receipt of the CRSC award, they do serve as a means of ascertaining certain injuries and/or illnesses that a Veteran has in connection to their combat service.

Awarding CRSC for Presumptive Conditions.

An individual can be awarded the CRSC benefit for a presumptive condition based on DD FORM 214 that proves service (Vietnam Service Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal, etc.) in areas such as the Republic of Vietnam.

Submit copies of ALL DD FORM 214's and VA Rating Decisions! Help us help you!

Please provide all *copies* of your DD FORM 214's/215's and VA Rating Decisions and enclose them with the claim form. CRSC cannot award any individual without these crucial documents.

UPDATES**CRSC Ambassador Recruitment:**

We have processed over 170 Ambassador applications and currently have retained 153 Ambassadors around the United States and more are coming in every day. We continually are excited to see this response and collaboration to get the word out about this important veteran's benefit.

CRSC Ambassador Events:

Join us for our third CRSC Ambassador training call 10 Jan 2007 at 1400 Hours EST. Become acquainted with fellow Ambassadors and hear lessons learned to aid you in spreading the word about the CRSC program. Don't miss this opportunity! Watch your e-mail in box for important call information including the toll free number and pass code.

TECHNOLOGY**CRSC Website**

The new CRSC website will be released on 18 Dec 2006. More user-friendly interface, discussion forum, easier access to online tools, and Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) are just a few of the enhancements that will be available. Check out the latest enhancements to the CRSC website and pass the word.

Continue to check the CRSC website for the most up-to-date information regarding the CRSC Ambassador Program: <http://www.crsc.army.mil/>

AMBASSADOR OUTREACH

Do you know someone that would be a great addition to the CRSC Ambassador Program? Do they have experience with CRSC? Do they have a passion for being a Veteran Advocate and helping potential eligible receive compensation they deserve? If you know anyone who fits this description, sign them up as an official CRSC Ambassador. Find downloadable applications on the CRSC website: <http://www.crsc.army.mil/> and click Ambassador's Corner or phone 1-866-281-3254.